

BOOK NOTICE

NICHOLS, S. W. (compiler), and R. T. SCHUH (Managing Editor). 1989. The Torre-Bueno Glossary of Entomology. Revised Edition of a Glossary of Entomology by J. R. de la Torre-Bueno, including Supplement A, by George S. Tulloch. The New York Entomological Society and American Museum of Natural History. xvii + 840 pp. ISBN 0-913424-13-7. Price \$35.00 U. S.

“**a-**, prefix; wanting or without (T-B; Harris)”; “**zymospecies-**, a species recognized solely [*sic*] on the basis of characters obtained through enzymes electrophoresis or comparable enzyme studies (Carlberg, pers. comm.)”. These entries, respectively, begin and end the text of “The Torre-Bueno Glossary of Entomology”.

Local entomological societies, at one time the backbone of entomology in North America, have been displaced somewhat from a focal role by national organizations. Nonetheless, their journals continue to provide outlets for first class publications, especially about systematics, morphology and ecology. In 1937, one such organization, the Brooklyn Entomological Society, published a work of inestimable value to entomologists and destined to become a classic: “A Glossary of Entomology”, by J. R. de la Torre-Bueno. In the course of the next 50 years, copies of that publication, known to the initiated as simply “Torre-Bueno”, appeared on the bookshelves of most North American entomologists, and on the bookshelves of entomologists from elsewhere who had occasion to read or write English entomological publications. As this work was becoming outdated, George S. Tulloch provided Supplement A, in 1962— but with the passage of time, that supplement became outdated, as well. Clearly, an extensive revision was required.

In the meantime, the Brooklyn Entomological Society and its assets became incorporated with the New York Entomological Society, the Executive of which determined to undertake a revision of the Torre-Bueno Glossary. Stephen W. Nichols was employed, and together with Randall T. Schuh of the American Museum, and some 50 editorial contributors, the work was undertaken, eventually leading to publication of a volume more than twice the size of the original “Torre-Bueno”.

Prefatory material includes: a list of names of the Editorial Contributors; Table of Contents; Preface; Acknowledgements; Introduction to the Revised Glossary, to the Original Glossary, and to Supplement A; and a list of the 32 names of hexapod orders used in the Glossary. In the text, each main entry is in boldface type. For each entry, the authority or authorities who proposed it are cited.

Following the 823 pages of text, references are cited: “Principal Sources for the Current Edition”; “Additional Sources for the Current Edition”; “Non-English Language Glossaries and Sources”; “Sources to English Common Names of Insects”; and “Other Useful References”.

A thick, heavy book, the volume has a strong binding of an attractive shade of brown buckram. Obviously, it is intended to last an entomologist for his working life. All in all, it is an aesthetically pleasing book, prepared with care and thought. This volume should be in the possession of every anglophone entomologist. At \$35.00, it is the entomological buy of the latter half of the 20th Century.

The New York Entomological Society and American Museum of Natural History must be commended for undertaking publication of this volume. Those who worked to produce the text, and especially the compiler and the Managing Editor deserve high praise for their efforts. Perhaps in the fullness of time, entomologists will refer to this volume as their beloved "Nichols-Schuh", rather than "Torre-Bueno".